

July 21, 1999.

Jane Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471  
Rockville, MD. 20857

2517 2040 '99 SEP -9 AUG -3 P1 26 44

Dear Dr. Henney,

I have been a participant in alternative medicine for ten (10) years, as an added benefit to my regular annual doctors visit.

Since my wife and I are early seventies of age, our bodies need the alternative supplements to offset declining body function and daily diet.

The FDA's restriction of our constitutional right of free speech is costing me and countless other Americans untold dollars to gather information about health benefits from nutritional supplements.

Your department's restriction on supplement labeling has driven me (thank god) to subscribe to various health letters as listed below:

1. Health and Healing by Dr. Julian Whitaker M.D.
2. Alternatives by Dr. David G. Wells M.D.
3. Health Revelations by Dr. Robert Atkins M.D.
4. Second Opinion by Dr. William C. Douglass M.D.

The doctors listed and others are providing a service that the American people are paying your FDA department to regulate. I will be the first to admit that the FDA has a huge responsibility to the public for regulating the Pharmaceutical as well as nutritional industries.

You as commissioner of the FDA should seek fair treatment to both parties. Give the American consumer back their right to constitutional free speech.

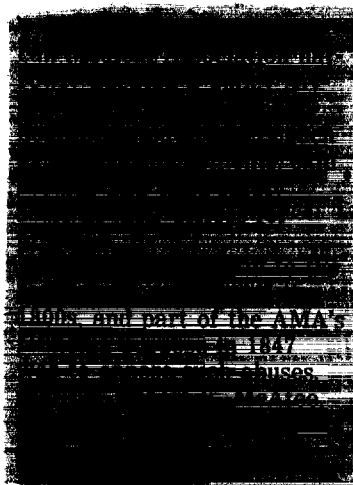
The courts have ruled that the FDA will allow health claims for freedom of speech on nutritional supplements. You as director must instruct your department to make this happen NOW.

I am in favor of the FDA promptly approving claims filed for Saw Palmetto, Psyllium Husk Seeds, Folic Acid, Vitamin B6 and B12 and Vitamin E.

My wife and I have taken the above items for years via doctor and health letter information and thankfully experience none of the health affections cured by these supplements.

Attached (left) is a news clipping from the Charleston Daily Mail in West Virginia dated June 23, 1999. This AMA ruling is akin to the many FDA rulings to suppress health related products which cure an affection, not just treat a symptom.

Medical practising is changing due to a more informed public to cures, not just treatment to relieve pain. Doctors and FDA must change with the



99P-3029

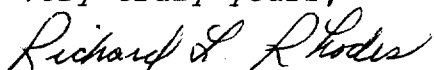
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times or be left with no customers with which to practice. There is a need for all parties above mentioned but shall be dictated by the consuming American Public.

Doctors and organizations are not Gods they are servants to the ailing consumer. I have changed my needs for medical purchasing to fit the year 2000 standards. My family medical needs are to be cured not treated and this includes a healthy regimen of supplemental nutrition. It is a published fact that 4 of 10 customers are going this way, with more changing each day.

Please have your FDA department aligned to serve the needs of the Public Taxpayer.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard L. Rhodes".

Richard L. Rhodes  
2018 E. Highland Drive  
Hurriane, W.V. 25526

CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 99P-3029/c124

See File Number: 99P-3030/c121

Mr. Richard L. Rhodes  
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